

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to the Final Office Action dated July 17, 2002, having a shortened statutory period expiring October 17, 2002 extended to November 18, 2002, in which:

Claims 1-13, 33 and 35 were previously pending in the application; and

Claims 1-13, 33 and 35 were rejected.

Claims 1, 33 and 35 have been amended.

Accordingly, claims 1-13, 33 and 35 are currently pending. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned **VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-4, 6, 8-13, 33 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,324,162 B1, issued to Chaudhuri (hereinafter, "*Chaudhuri*") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,011,780, issued to Vaman et al. (hereinafter, "*Vaman*").

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 5 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by *Chaudhuri*.

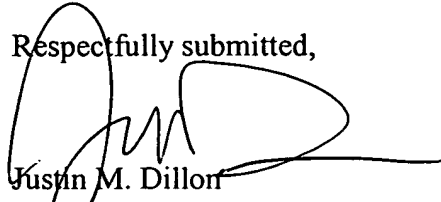
CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at 512-439-5097.

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO:

EV129134960US

Respectfully submitted,



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Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

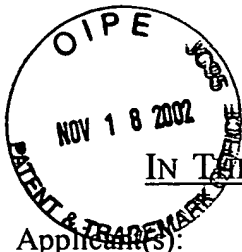
1. (Amended Three Times) A method of operating a network, the network comprising

a plurality of nodes coupled by a plurality of optical links, comprising:
provisioning a virtual path between a first node and a second node of said plurality of nodes, wherein said provisioning comprises:
identifying said first node and said second node of said plurality of nodes,
dynamically discovering a physical path from said first node to said second node by dynamically identifying any intermediary nodes comprising said physical path, and
dynamically establishing said virtual path by dynamically configuring a set of connections between said first node, said second node, and said intermediary nodes, if any, using intermediary links of said plurality of **optical** links.

13. (Amended Once) The method of claim 12, wherein use of said database in said **dynamically** discovering said physical path allows said **dynamically** discovering said physical path to proceed more quickly.

33. (Amended Two Times) An optical network comprising:
a plurality of optical links;
a plurality of nodes, each one of said plurality of nodes coupled to at least one other of said plurality of nodes by at least one of said plurality of optical links, wherein said nodes are configured to provision a virtual path between a first node and a second node of said plurality of nodes by virtue of being configured to:
identify said first node and said second node of said plurality of nodes,
dynamically discover a physical path from said node to said second node by virtue of being configured to dynamically identify any intermediary nodes of said physical path, and
dynamically establish said virtual path by virtue of being configured to dynamically configure a set of connections between said nodes of said physical path.

35. (Amended Three Times) A network comprising:
a plurality of nodes coupled by a plurality of optical links, wherein said plurality of nodes are configured to provision a virtual path between a first node and a second node of said plurality of nodes, wherein each of said plurality of nodes comprises:
identifying means for identifying said first node and said second node of said plurality of nodes,
discovering means for dynamically discovering a physical path from said first node to said second node by dynamically identifying any intermediary nodes of said physical path, and
establishing means for dynamically establishing said virtual path by dynamically configuring a set of connections between said nodes of said physical path.



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Ali Saleh, H. Michael Zadikian, Zareh Baghdasarian, Vahid Parsi
Assignee: Cisco Technology, Inc.
Title: Method of Reducing Traffic During Path Restoration
Serial No.: 09/232,397 Filing Date: January 15, 1999
Examiner: Hanh N. Nguyen Group Art Unit: 2662
Docket No.: CIS0008US

Austin, TX
November 18, 2002

BOX CPA
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D. C. 20231

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NOV 20 2002

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Technology Center 2800

Dear Sir:

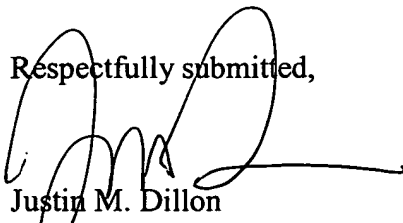
Applicant(s) respectfully petition(s) for a one-month extension of time within which to respond to the July 17, 2002 outstanding Final Office Action, such extension allowing the undersigned until November 18, 2002 to respond.

Please charge the amount of \$110.00 as set forth in the enclosed transmittal letter.

EXPRESS MAIL NUMBER:

EV129134960US

Respectfully submitted,


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